MCG Today

Medical College of Georgia, Summer 1980, Vol. 9, No. 2

The target is dental disease

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BEHIND THE LINES

As I reflected over the past few months' busy calendar at MCG, and wondered what else could happen, it dawned on me that an important anniversary is approaching — MCG *Today* completes 10 years this summer.

If you can pause for a few moments and remember some of the activities of the past decade, you will be amazed that so much could have occurred in such a short period of time.

It has been a period of enormous growth both in size and quality. And yet, that growth has been carried out carefully and conservatively enough to ensure a firm foundation for the 1980's. This cannot be said of all medical centers and universities caught up in the pressures and prosperity of the 1970's.

The leadership of the Georgia legislature, the Board of Regents, our alumni, our president and his administration and faculty has been outstanding. Alumni interest in MCG continues to grow and become more active. Certainly, in relationship to the MCG *Today* magazine, publication for 10 years would not have been possible without the support and encouragement of the alumni and the MCG Foundation, Inc.

Homecoming was a huge success with some 250 people enjoying the "big band" sound of Charlie Spivak and orchestra. Class reunions were well attended as were the continuing education courses. I feel that we are learning what you want at this event and that each year will bring improvements. Let us know how you feel about Homecoming since that is our most important source of information for improvement.

The 1981 date for Homecoming is May 14-15. Please mark your calendar and plan to attend. Also, if you're planning a class reunion, drop us a note or call 828-4001 and ask for a copy of a pamphlet which our Alumni Office has developed to assist you in this task.

Heightened faculty interest added a great deal to this year's event and I believe you enjoy meeting faculty at these events.

The second annual Marvin Goldstein Lecture May 23-24 was a rousing success. I was impressed by this event and by the enormous interest shown by MCG Dental Faculty and Alumni. Dr. Morton Amsterdam, internationally known periodontist, was the lecturer. Dr. Marvin Goldstein, Atlanta orthodontist and sponsor of the event, was present. He is a delightful person and one that MCG is grateful to for his support and interest.

I hope you have an enjoyable summer and that you will plan to get involved with MCG during its 1980-81 year. The school needs you more now than ever before.

J.C.A.

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Research plays important role in School of Dentistry

by Dr. Tom Dirksen, associate dean for biological sciences

From its inception in 1966, the philosophy, the organizational structure, and recruitment priorities all speak to research as one of the primary interests and activities in the School of Dentistry.

Biomedical and behavioral research includes oral biology and biomaterials. To this end, oral biology (which includes the disciplines of anatomy, biochemistry, microbiology, pharmacology, physiology, and oral pathology), and dental physical sciences were established within the dental school. These areas are staffed by investigators well trained in their respective disciplines, most of whom have both the dental degree and a PhD degree in the appropriate discipline.

A current research goal of the School of Dentistry is to mobilize much of its resources on the central themes of dental caries, periodontal disease, biology of the oral soft tissues, fluoride effects on metabolism and biomaterials science. These broad areas accommodate investigators with a variety of interests, while encouraging cooperative research efforts and fostering exchange of ideas and information which results in a more cohesive research program. This concept is important in basic and clinical biomedical research and is of particular significance to modern dentistry as new findings extend into the teaching and service programs.

Dental caries and periodontal disease are of major concern to dentistry since these pathological conditions are the two most significant causes of tooth loss. Efforts are presently being directed toward the development and testing of anticaries agents and toward finding the cause of bone loss around teeth as initiated by oral microorganisms.

Research on oral soft tissues includes the salivary glands and their functions and dysfunctions. Studies are related to salivary gland growth and function and gland alterations following infection, autoimmune reactions, and drugs.

Another facet of soft tissue studies involves the oral mucosa. There is particular interest in following the metabolic events which occur during the process of wound healing, particularly as influenced by nutritional factors. The oral mucosa is also observed for its reaction to various chemical agents which are known to transform normal cells into malignant cells. Squamous cell carcinoma has been considered one of the best model systems to investigate this phenomenon.

Fluorides are an important aspect in the control of dental caries. Exposure of this country's population to fluoride is generally increasing through the use of fluoridated toothpaste, gels, and through the consumption of fluoridated water. Despite this, some fundamental questions concerning the relation of fluoride to the microbial flora and oral tissues remain. These include mechanisms by which fluoride is absorbed from the mouth, the influence of fluoride on white blood cell function, the effects of fluorides on bacterial metabolism, and the possible role of oral bacteria in producing locally high fluoride concentrations around the teeth. Information obtained from studies of these problems are expected to provide a rational basis for the formulation of therapeutic agents for treatment of patients with well defined gingival and/or periodontal disease.

Dr. George Schuster does a thorough examination of an animal for caries following anti-caries treatment.

Research in the area of biomaterials is essential to dentistry so as to provide restorative (filling) materials which are compatible to living tissues, pleasing in appearance, relatively easy to manipulate, and provide a lifetime of service to patients. The microstructure of dental alloys as influenced by composition is being studied to provide a substance possessing better mechanical properties. Various composite restorative materials are also being evaluated for roughness, lustre, and marginal and gross stain. Following their evaluation in extracted teeth, restorative materials are subjected to clinical trials so as to assess their suitability for routine patient care.

The Research Advisory Committee is charged with the encouragement and activation of research in the School of Dentistry. Committee members review and make recommendations concerning intramural research grant applications and help organize and participate in courses in research design and methodology. The committee monitors a small grants program which was established to provide funding of pilot projects for new investigators. To date, six research projects presently funded from extramural sources received their initial support from this program.

The philosophy of the School of Dentistry is based on the premise that research and dental education must be interrelated for a viable program. Extramural support of the dental research program has increased 40-fold in the past decade. Of significance was the awarding of a $217,000 Biomedical Research Development Grant by the National Institutes of Health which is presently in its third and final year. Through support from these and like activities, faculty members presented 36 papers at the 1980 American Association for Dental Research Meeting. This strong research effort naturally helps the School of Dentistry in reaching its primary goal of improving dental health for the citizens of Georgia.

Expansion and contraction measurement of dental materials used for making crowns and fixed partial dentures is observed by Dr. Carl Fairhurst and Ms. Delora Hashinger.

Mahesh elected

Dr. Virendra Mahesh, chairman of the department of endocrinology, Regents' professor and holder of the Robert Greenblatt professorship in endocrinology, has been elected president of the International Society of Reproductive Medicine for a two year term. The organization's annual meeting will take place in October.

In addition, Mahesh has been invited to organize a three hour symposium entitled "Current Concepts on the Control of Ovarian Function" as part of the program of the tenth World Congress on Fertility and Sterility to be held in Madrid, Spain in July.

First Bernard Lecture presented

Dr. Eleanor D. Montague presented the first Bernard lecture in April at the School of Dentistry on "Optimal Combinations of Surgery and Irradiation in Cancer Treatment."

The late Dr. Guy Talmadge Bernard, whom the lecture honors, was a 1907 graduate of the Medical College, and a pioneer in the use of radium for cancer treatment. He was founder of the University Hospital Cancer Clinic, which now bears his name, and from which funds were derived to build the Bernard wing of University Hospital.

Dr. Bernard died Dec. 22, 1960, leaving funds to MCG establishing a course of lectures devoted to cancer and related subjects.

Nursing scholarships made available

Twelve scholarships have been made possible for Medical College of Georgia nursing students through the MCG Research Foundation, Inc.

These grants also honor two individuals who have made lasting contributions to nursing at MCG — Dean Emeritus E. Louise Grant of Augusta and Miss Esther L. Moyer of Allentown, Pa.

Nine E. Louise Grant Senior Nursing Student Scholarships, valued at approximately $1000 each, and three Esther L. Moyer Junior Nursing Student Scholarships, valued at approximately $2000 each, are directed at increasing the number of MCG students who decide on employment at Talmadge Memorial Hospital.

These grants are for reimbursement of tuition and certain other school related expenses and are paid back on terms of one year employment at Talmadge Hospital for each year a grant is received.

Moyer was one of the first five faculty members at the MCG School of Nursing and was, for a time, in charge of nursing services in Talmadge Hospital. She was at MCG for seven and a half years before going to the American School in Beirut, Lebanon. She is now living in Allentown, Pa.

Dean Grant served 20 years as dean of the School of Nursing, coming to Augusta in 1956 when the department of nursing was moved from the University of Georgia in Athens and made a School of Nursing at MCG. She has remained active in nursing as a consultant since her retirement.

Connective Tissue symposium scheduled

The Medical College of Georgia, through its departments of anatomy and pathology, in conjunction with the Southern Society of Anatomy's 20th annual meeting will sponsor a symposium entitled, "Connective Tissue in Arterial and Pulmonary Diseases," at the Augusta Hilton, Oct. 15. The one day meeting honors Dr. Holde Puchtler, MCG professor of pathology.

The symposium will consist of a one day program, presenting the following speakers and topics: Dr. Theodore Oegema, University of Minnesota, "The Structure and Function of Aortic Proteoglycans;" Seymour Glagov, University of Chicago, "Quantitation of Cells and Fibers in Tissue Sections of Artery Walls;"

Dr. Dieter Kramsch, Boston University Medical Center, "Biochemical Changes of the Arterial Wall in Atherosclerosis with Special Reference to Connective Tissues, Promising Experimental Avenue for their Prevention;" Dr. Edward J. Miller, University of Alabama in Birmingham, "Biochemistry of Collagen, with Special References to the Arterial Wall;"

Dr. Gordon L. Snider, Boston University, "Relations between the Connective Tissues of the Lung and their Mechanical Behavior;" Dr. Judith A. Foster, University of Georgia, "Lathyrism and the Biochemistry of Elastin;" Dr. Gerard M. Turino, medicine, Columbia University, College of Physicians and Surgeons, "Proteolytic Mechanisms and Pulmonary Emphysema;"

Dr. Holde Puchtler, Medical College of Georgia, "Histochemical Investigations of Elastin, Collastin and Other Collagens;" and, Professor T.H. Schiebler, University of Wurzburg, Wurtzburg, Germany.

The Board of Regents held their April meeting on the Medical College of Georgia campus.

During the two day session, MCG officials were given the opportunity to better inform the Regents about various aspects of the university and its needs and accomplishments.

Regents approve promotions

The Board of Regents of the University System has approved the following promotions:

Professors, Gary Keith Best, PhD; Allen Jay Dennis Jr., MD; Dickson B. Dunlap, MD, Guy Benard Faguet, MD; Thomas Allen Huff, MD; Fredrick Hartmut Leibach, PhD; Henry G. Mealing Jr., MD; Paul F.A. Milner, MD; Jean A. Morse, PhD; Dennis B. Smith Jr., MD; William Arthur Speir, MD; and Thomas Robert Swift, MD.

Clinical professors, Sergio C. Alvarez-Mena, MD; Curtis G. Hames, MD; and Charles B. Shirver Jr., MD.

Associate professors, Abdulla M. Abdulla, MBBS; Thomas Owen Abney, PhD; Kenneth John Anusavice, PhD, DMD; J. Michael Barrett, PhD; Mario I. Canedo, MD; John H. Crosby, MD; Casimir Eubig, PhD, William Townsend Freeman, MD; Barbara H. Harms, BS; Margaret L. Kirby, PhD; Pamela Jane Moore, PhD; Marshall David Nathan, MD; Morris L. O'Dell, PhD, DMD; John Peter Rissing, MD; David Fredrick Scott, PhD; John Aziz Souma, MD; Terrance Allen Stoming, PhD; and Jon Harold Trueblood, PhD.

Associate research professor, Ralph Carl Kolbeck, PhD.

Associate clinical professors, James Terrence Cook, MD; David William Cundey, MD; Melvyn Lawrence Haas, MD; John Milton Martin, MD; William A. Miller, MD; Edvardo Montana, MD; and Ronny Joe Sayers, MD.

Assistant professors, Rashid A. Akhtar, PhD; Cleora W. Barnwell, MS; Pickens A. Gantt, MD; Karen J. Grube, MS; Martha E. Hart, EdD; Derek Scott Harwell, MD; Willie J. Hillson, MD; Norma Alice Ingram, MSN; David H. Johnson, MD; Laurie T. Jowers, MSN; Benjamin L. Rucker, MD; Martha W. Sacksteder, MSN; Vera Belinda Thurmond, EdD; and Diann L. Zajac, MA.

And, research scientist, Barbara P. Stephens, MEd.

New alumni association presidents selected

Beginning July 1, the new alumni association presidents assumed their responsibilities. They are as follows: Geraldine Rinker, School of Allied Health Sciences; Dr. David Wells, School of Medicine; Suzanne P. Bohler, School of Nursing; Dr. Norris O'Dell, School of Dentistry, and Dr. David A. Welter, School of Graduate Studies.

Moretz Surgical Society meets

The William H. Moretz Surgical Society held its scientific sessions Feb. 29 and 30 on the MCG campus.

Several outstanding surgeons from Augusta and across Georgia presented lectures or conducted conferences during the two day meeting.

Dr. Henry Alperin of Augusta discussed radiographic diagnosis of breast cancer; Dr. Ron Veazey, Augusta talked about Gilfoam embolism for hepatoma; Dr. Jim Freeman of Albany, revascularization of legs using distal vessels; Dr. William Headley of Milledgeville, gastric bypasses; Dr. Joe Still, Augusta, burn unit experiences; while Dr. Kenna Given conducted general rounds on microsurgery of flaps; and Dr. Rex Teeslink, conducted a general radiology conference.

Architectural barriers studied

Susan Cliburn, an MCG physical therapy student, is conducting an independent study on architectural barriers in the business district of Thomaston.

Cliburn has reviewed the possibility of ramping curbs and providing larger parking spaces in Thomaston downtown, determining that the primary drawback is financial.

Cliburn explains that she is conducting this study because of a deep interest in handicapped people and in helping them be more active and mobile.

Hinman dental meeting has long history

by Julie Weber

Exhibits . . . crowds . . . confusion . . . more exhibits . . . seminars . . . still crowded . . . new faces . . . old acquaintances . . .

This was the atmosphere of the 68th annual Thomas P. Hinman dental meeting presented by the Fifth District Dental Society of Georgia held recently in Atlanta.

The Hinman meeting is a post-graduate educational meeting for the dental profession. It is named for its founder, Dr. Thomas P. Hinman.

Hinman organized the first meeting, referred to as "Midwinter Clinic," in 1911 as a "post-graduate educational meeting for dentists with the hope that those attending would return home and disseminate what they had learned to their colleagues."

Hinman was born March 4, 1870. He was graduated from Southern Dental College in 1891 and entered private practice in the Atlanta area.

He served as dean of the Atlanta-Southern Dental College, now Emory University, when Southern Dental College and Atlanta Dental College merged in 1917. Hinman served in that capacity, in addition to continuing in private practice, until his death in 1931.

During the annual Hinman weekend, dental students entering into private practice and practicing dentists have the opportunity to visit the technical and scientific exhibits presented by the various dental manufacturing companies to help decide what purchases they need to make in the way of equipment and supplies.

Dentists and all other associated with the dental field have the opportunity to participate in continuing education courses. A wide variety of subjects were discussed. Topics included: nutrition and dental care; controlling the difficult child in the dental office; facial plastic surgery; coping with a physical condition which leads to premature retirement; computers in dentistry; drugs and their use in dentistry; when a child needs braces; headache, facial pain and muscle dysfunction; and new advancements in root canals and oral surgery.

Dr. Arthur O. Rahn, chairman of prosthodontics here at MCG, presented "The Single Denture, Is It Really That Easy?"

Tours of local dental offices were made available and special programs for spouses were planned.

Dr. Judson Hickey, dean of the School of Dentistry here, welcomed all MCG alumni at a dinner held at the Peachtree Plaza Hotel.

Geneticist lectures at MCG

Dr. Jack M. Rary, the researcher who gained international recognition for his success in fertilizing human eggs in the test tube gave a lecture to MCG in April. The title of his speech was "*In vitro* Fertilization of Oocytes and Embryo Transfer in Humans."

He is currently the professor of obstetrics-gynecology and director of the genetics lab at Eastern Virginia Medical School in Norfolk.

Dr. Rary has recently been in the limelight of public interest, as his work makes it possible for many previously sterile couples to parent children.

Morrow speaks at Rinker Society meeting

The John Robert Rinker Urologic Society met Feb. 23 at the Medical College of Georgia.

Dr. Rinker is professor emeritus of surgery at MCG, having served as chief of urology for 29 years prior to his retirement in 1972. He was widely recognized for his work in genitourinary tuberculosis and he was one of the first to perform needle biopsies of prostate glands.

Guest speaker for the meeting was Dr. Prosser Morrow, clinical professor in urologic trauma at Tulane University.

Homecoming 1980

Introduction of guests of honor

Dr. Lois Ellison, provost at MCG, chats with Dr. Willie Barton, Macon

Charlie Spivak still enjoying his work

Dancing 'till midnight was an enjoyable part of Homecoming

Dr. Norman Pursley recognizes old friend and welcomes him back

Dr. David Wells and wife, Mary, talk with President Moretz

The "big band sound" sparked many memories

Class Reunions

Class of 1935

Class of 1940

Class of 1945

Class of 1950

Class of 1955

Class of 1960

Class of 1970

"A life worth giving"

by Lois T. Ellison MD, Provost

Editor's Note: We are pleased, when possible, to publish comments made by MCG's top administrators, legislators, Board of Regents members or special campus guests. The following address was presented June 8, 1979 to degree candidates by MCG Provost, Dr. Lois T. Ellison.

I am an avid fan of Charles Schultz the creator of the famous comic strip Peanuts. Charlie Brown and all of his characters are real people to me. A recent episode pictured Charlie's little sister Sally holding a sheet of paper in her hand. She is in the classroom obviously talking to her teacher and says, "This is my report. I sat up all night working on it. Well, actually I didn't sit up all night working on it. What I did was I sat up all night worrying about it. There's a big difference."

Well I have been working — I mean worrying — for months about my small part in the exercises today. I am acutely aware of the well known fact that nobody hears a commencement talk. Indeed that there is absolutely nobody more superfluous in the whole world than a commencement speaker. You have come to either receive or to see someone receive a diploma.

A well known newspaper columnist went so far as to say that "the speaker could stand up before the graduates, their friends and family and recite the Warsaw telephone directory and be given just as much (or little) applause as if he bicycled on a high wire across Niagara Falls."

In a recent issue of the Chronical of Higher Education, a professor, in poking fun at the ancient ritual of commencement, confessed that he played a game of "counting the cliches as they came reverberating from the loudspeakers." This year he is contemplating refining his game to a more challenging amusement of predicting the cliches just before the speaker utters them. He will surely hear such phrases as "meaningful experience", "new day", "professional responsibility", "just the beginning", "the bottom line".

Well I do not know the specific cause of Sally's worry but I have shared with you some of my concerns which are compounded by my honest and sincere desire to say something today that somehow, in spite of the odds, will be heard and prove worthwhile even if in a small way and to only a fraction of the audience.

So get ready for the cliches; count them if you will. They have been said a thousand times, in thousands of commencements. This is different — though. This is **you** and **I** who have never had this opportunity before and never will again. I will precede on the premise that no phrase is completely trite and meaningless if it comes from the heart and is accepted by you, my friends, as such.

That the practice of medicine is drastically changing is an undeniable fact. This is true for physicians, dentists, nurses, as well as the allied health care professionals. The expectations of the public present tremendous problems. "Access of health care for everyone" has been interpreted to be "the same for everyone" which is an unrealistic if not unobtainable goal. Separation of "needs" from "desires" is difficult. Certainly there is wide disparity between the two. Who is to make the decisions that will ultimately determine what our health care systems should and perhaps will be in the future?

The National Health Planning and Resources Development Act of 1974 (P.L. 93-641) was inacted for the purpose of improving the quality, availability, and the accessibility of health care to the American people and at the lowest possible cost. This has major implications for all of us even though its full impact remains to be seen. We hear statements, always delivered in a foreboding tone, such as "the future is not what is used to be." We certainly cannot dispute the point but has it ever been any different?

When I attend meetings at which health care issues are discussed I often am reminded of the story about the church meeting in which the suggestion was made that a chandelier be purchased. One individual immediately arose and stated emphatically that he was strongly opposed to this proposal. In support of his opinion he said

1) it costs too much,
2) we have no one who can play it and
3) what we really need in this church is improved lighting.

My point is that so often persons either as individuals or spokesmen for organizations are negative regardless of the proposal, speak with great authority with opinions that are often times based on misconception and misinformation, and, in addition, have their own solution as to what should be done.

We are all aware of the complexities and the vital questions that confront us regarding health care. I want to direct my comments today, however, to a different topic but one I think that can influence the future course of medicine as profoundly as any federal legislation. This is based on my belief in the worth and power of the individual.

All of you have acquired basic knowledge and skills and you are competent to practice the profession for which you have studied. But in addition each of you has a special talent, a unique gift that only you possess.

It is not related to social position, wealth, intellectual ability, good looks, beautiful clothes, sparkling personality, or college degrees. And most certainly it has nothing to do with age, sex, or race.

I am referring to the gift of self. Sharing this gift of self offers the path, perhaps the only way, to happiness, success and fulfillment.

It is as important in 1979 as it was almost two thousand years ago when Luke emphasized the ideal of service. He himself, you remember, was referred to as "Luke, our beloved physician." No one can advise as to the best way to share oneself but certain principles apply and I will enumerate a few of these that I consider essential.

1) Know that you are important. Know that what you do and say and believe are of significance. This in no way implies self importance or arrogance but the inner feeling that greatness is not achieved within yourself but through others.

Humility is the realization that the center of life is outside of yourself. If you know you are important you will automatically treat others as if they are important, which is one of the most basic fundamentals of living in harmony and peace with your fellow man.

2) Be honest and sincere. These characteristics are essential in your working with people. Make a habit of this from the beginning and you will find this exceedingly easy.

3) Maintain enthusiasm and optimism. Remember the saying that "the beginning of each new day is the first day of the rest of your life." Live to the fullest each day. Little is accomplished without enthusiasm, that extra spark that makes things happen.

4) Be pleasant. This is perhaps the easiest to accomplish but it is amazing how few persons practice it. You have only to observe people waiting for an elevator or the checkout counter at the supermarket to realize this. They are usually so grumpy and for no apparent reason. Have you ever smiled at a stranger or made a friendly comment? Have you ever observed the way a doctor's receptionist or nurse greets patients, how a laboratory technician or physical therapist relates to a patient in a hospital? What a difference it can make.

5) Dare to be different. Mediocrity and conformism are the world's greatest dampers. Guard against being average.

6) Have a dream, a plan, goals for your life. Do not be discouraged by failures in the past or fear the future. No failures more often than not are indicative of *no successes.*

I list these six as being important components for personal accomplishment.

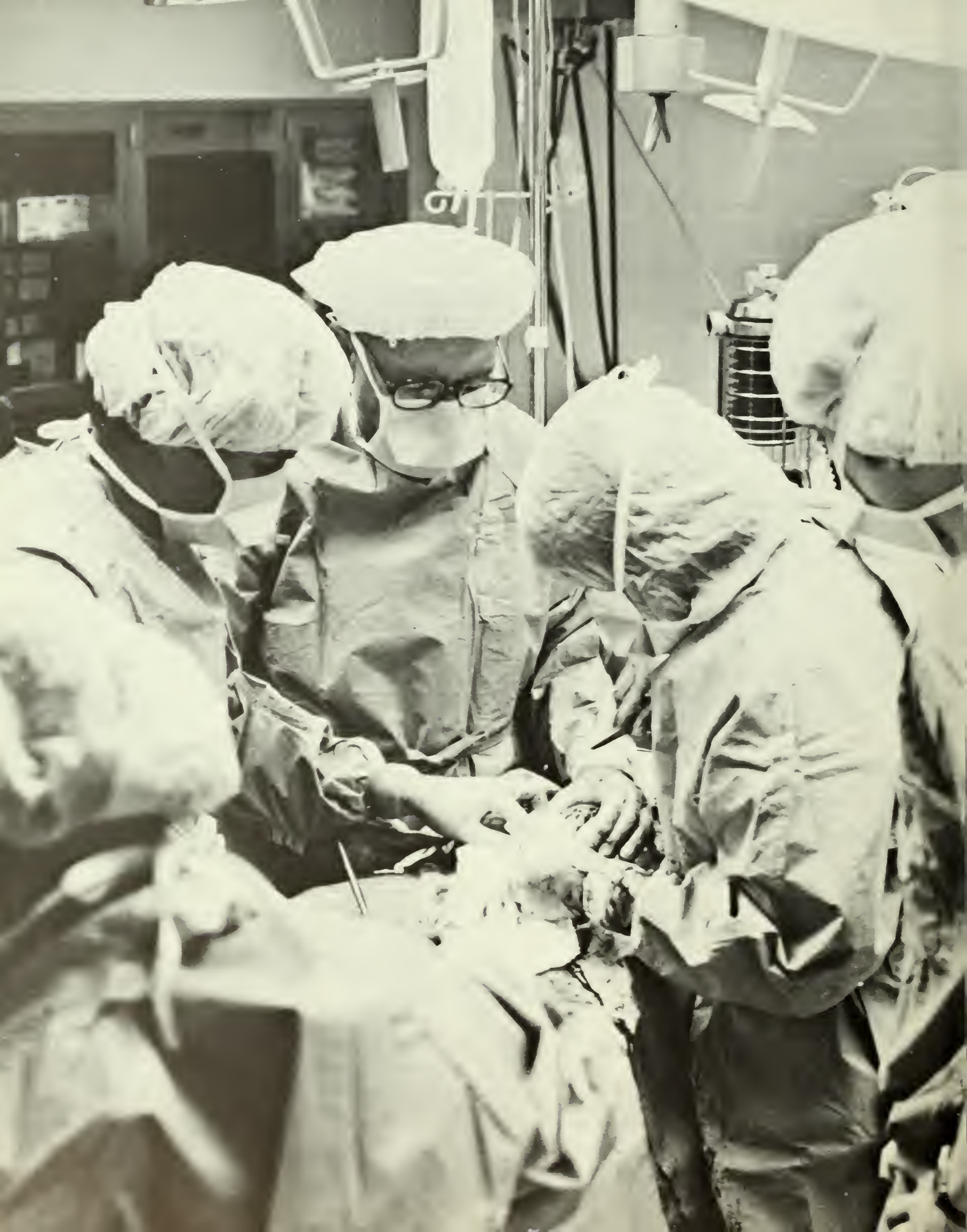
Certainly I realize there are many others such as love, compassion, fidelity, friendship, and hard work only to list a few. In addition I have not mentioned the Golden Rule and the importance of commitment to your family, patients, and community. But all "good things" have a certain sameness and, in my experience if one assumes the attitudes and direction that I referred to, they will encompass all the others.

These principles to live by that I have mentioned assume special significance for those of us in the health professions. We have the awesome responsibility but marvelous privilege and life-long opportunity to play a special role in the lives of others — probably to a greater extent than any other profession.

It is my conviction that if we practice these ideals that we need not fear for our future or the future of medicine.

This concludes my time with you. My heartfelt Congratulations and Best Wishes to each of you graduates as well as to your parents, grandparents, husbands, wives and other loved ones.

You can leave this auditorium with the complete assurance that you have a life worth giving. I ask you to remember the words of Dr. Albert Schweitzer the great physician and humanitarian who said, "I don't know what your destiny will be but one thing I know, the only ones among you who will be really happy are those who have sought and found how to serve."



Delivery suites becoming site of surgical OB procedures

by Julie Guillebeau

The advent of obstetrical surgical procedures being done in the delivery suite, rather than in the operating room, is something many hospitals are examining closely.

And, what they're finding is that it's a good idea.

About three years ago, the Medical College of Georgia's chairman of obstetrics, Dr. William A. Scoggin, implemented the concept of doing OB procedures in the delivery suite, not in OR. Today, it's a well developed program, one which has given impetus to the possibility of other hospitals beginning similar programs.

One of the main reasons for the positive acceptance of the idea is that it permits obstetricians to do emergency Cesarean sections more quickly. In the past when an emergency "C-section" arose, an available operating room, an anesthesiologist, scrub nurses all had to be found. Now, all OB nurses have had additional training in OR procedures, as well as receiving continual in-service training to maintain their expertise. Twenty-four hour anesthesiology coverage also is available for the delivery suites, due to the efforts of Dr. Skina Fadel, with support from Dr. Z.W. Gramling, chairman, department of anesthesiology.

The convenience of scheduling other OB procedures also is a plus for the program. Elective "C-sections," tubal ligations, and all other OB surgical procedures can be done more quickly, and thus more cost effectively. For instance, a woman may have decided that her current pregnancy will be her last. Regardless of whether the birth is a "C-section" or a traditional delivery, it's a simple matter to complete the tubal ligation after the baby has been delivered. The woman spends less time in the hospital, and thus less money, than if she were to have the second procedure done at a later date.

Dr. Scoggin continues that Talmadge Memorial Hospital provides the tertiary obstetrical care for East Central Georgia, and due to the nature of the specialty, Talmadge will remain this area's tertiary OB care center for many years to come.

For example: Part of Talmadge's responsibility is to offer the type of care required by high risk mothers, as well as routine pre-natal care. In the high risk pre-natal clinics, patients are evaluated, and if warranted, special tests can be run. The clinics also do more than the average screenings for illnesses that would cause both mother and baby later problems. Many of these tests and screenings are available only at Talmadge.

Dr. Hossam Fadel, who runs the high risk program, explains that many of these high risk mothers can be identified early in their pregnancies and followed throughout. These mothers could be those who are diabetic, have had previous miscarriages or difficult pregnancies, who have an Rh blood factor incompatibility, and a host of other reasons.

All this exceptional pre-natal care continues right on to delivery, when once in labor, every patient (high risk or not) has an external monitor to watch the baby's progress. Internal monitors are reserved for those cases which warrant them.

Ultrasound and amniocentesis are available to those patients requiring them. Both of these tests help determine the baby's maturity. Talmadge Hospital's obstetrical laboratory runs the amniocentesis tests for other local hospitals, and for many other hospitals across Georgia.

To the uninitiated, all these tests and capabilities for close monitoring may seem extravagant. However, recent studies and published articles place the blame for nearly one-fourth of the cases of respiratory distress syndrome, the leading cause of illness and death among newborns, squarely on the shoulders of the delivering physicians.

Dr. William F. Powers, associate director of the Neonatal Intensive Care unit of St. Francis Hospital, Peoria, Ill., says physicians apparently are permitting unnecessary premature births, which often result in respiratory distress syndrome. RDS afflicts newborns whose lungs have not developed enough to function properly.

MCG's Dr. George Nelson, an MD who also holds a PhD in biochemistry, has made advances in testing for lung maturity in the developing fetus. Dr. Nelson has derived the quantative value for the phospholipid lecithin and correlated it to lung maturity. He learned that if lecithin concentration is .100 mg % or greater of lecithin phosphorus, the lungs have developed enough for birth.

Dr. Nelson also has combined the lecithin test with spectrophotometric analysis, creatinine concentration and percent of fat cells in amniotic fluid, to determine the gestational age in three phases: before 32 weeks, 32-36 weeks, and after 36 weeks.

As with other tests done by Nelson, laboratory work is sent to him from physicians in other Augusta hospitals and from those outside Augusta.

What does all this sophistication and specialized care mean to the patient? As Dr. Scoggin says, "This close observation of mother and baby, pre-natally, at birth and post-natally, gives us healthier mothers and healthier babies."

"Must put back into community", MCG alumni president feels

by Doug Vinson

"A community is like a field, you can't always be taking something out of it. You have to put something into it." That is the philosophy of the new president of the MCG alumni association, David Allen Wells, '49. And when it comes to his community of Dalton and the profession of medicine he has "put in" a great deal.

You name it in Dalton and he has probably been actively involved. As a member of the board of directors of the Dalton Chamber of Commerce he spearheaded the drive to establish a junior college in the city and was also chairman of the junior college's board of directors in 1967.

The civic-minded family practitioner has been chairman of the Whitfield County Board of Health for the last five years and served as team physician for Dalton High School for 25 years. An active member of the First United Methodist Church and the Lions Club, he was voted "Man of the Year" in 1972.

"I think a person should do more than simply work in a community; he should be a part of it by doing something to make it a better place to live."

Active in MCG alumni affairs for years and a member of the MCG Foundation, Wells assumes the alumni presidency with a wealth of experience gleaned from his work with the Medical Association of Georgia.

His involvement with the MAG dates back to 1954. In 1968 he was appointed to the board of directors and in 1972 he became chairman of the board. He was elected president in 1975.

"Working with medicine on the political level is similar to treating a patient. Whatever the immediate problem is you want to deal with that then you want to take measures to insure the long range health of the person," says Wells.

One of the first moves Wells has made as alumni president has been to change the date of the annual officers meeting to coincide with MCG Homecoming. In the past the meeting was held in conjunction with the MAG meeting.

Homecoming is one of the activities Wells wants to stress. "We've got some people who haven't been back to this campus since Talmadge Hospital was built. You can't expect people to take an interest in the college, much less contribute to it, unless they know what is going on. So I hope in the future alumni will take advantage of this opportunity to see for themselves what is going on."

In helping meet the need for more family practitioners in underserved areas Wells has been a member of the State Medical Education Board since 1975. The organization is responsible for giving scholarships to medical students who agree to serve in communities of less than 15,000 in underserved health areas of Georgia.

The organization was a co-sponsor of the well-attended health fair held in Augusta last year. The health fair gave students the opportunity to meet health officials representing smaller communities throughout the state.

"The public is demanding that someone see them when they are sick, not three days later. That is one of the reasons the role of the general practitioner is coming back.

"The same people who complain the most about not being able to see a doctor will turn around and complain the most about increasing medical costs. I tell them, 'If you want the kind of health care we delivered 15 years ago you can keep the costs down, but if you want to enjoy all the benefits of technology, all the latest diagnostic equipment, then it's going to cost you something,' It's the old story of people wanting all the privileges but not taking any of the responsibilities."

Wells feels the public needs to take more responsibility in the health care process.

"People think physicians are part-magicians and that we can undo the accumulated effects of a lifetime of poor health habits."

The Dalton physician sees 20 to 25 patients a day. He is a strong advocate of treating each patient with respect.

"If you are going to maintain an active practice in a smaller community you have to be responsive to your patients and you have to show them you care."

How does a man with many irons in the fire manage all of his affairs?

Wells says he keeps from spreading himself too thin by knowing what he can and can't do, then "buckling down to work and staying with it."

"My father was a doctor and he put himself in an early grave by working the way he did. I stopped delivering babies 12 years ago and I don't do surgery in the hospital anymore so that has given me more time."

Of all of his accomplishments, the physician says he is proudest of the four children he has raised.

"You can't be all things to all people, but if you can't be something to your family then you've missed the boat."

Antique car collection 'not a conscious effort'

by John Donnelly

Moving his assortment of antique cars out of the garage for the visitors to get a better look, Dr. Milton Johnson, '60, of Macon calls to his wife Joyce to "get the keys to the Packard; I thought they were down here." The physician can be forgiven for thinking he had the Packard keys since he has to keep up with eight sets when he is shifting his cars around.

Even with an orderly system, which the family practitioner has, keys are hard to keep up with in the Johnson household. Besides Checker Marathons, a Ford pickup and his daughter's early Mustang, there are his antiques; a 1931 "A" Model Town Sedan, a 1939 Packard Touring Sedan, a 1947 Kaiser Custom and a 1948 Lincoln Continental. A lot of keys.

He has not make a conscious effort to collect antique cars, Johnson says. "I had a Model "A" when I was in high school and I always wanted another. The chance came while I was interning at Macon Hospital. I bought this 1931 "A" Model Town Sedan which had 92,000 miles on it. That was the first one."

His next purchase came nine years later when he bought a 1939 Packard ("my wife didn't discourage me") and two years later came a 1948 Lincoln Continental. "When the Lincoln Continental came out, it didn't have a number designation," Johnson relates, "It was only after they made the second series that they started calling them Mark II, Mark III, etc. When this model came out, they just called it the Continental."

The most recent addition to his collection is a 1947 Kaiser Custom. "After the Second World War, Kaiser was the first car company to came out with new body styles. All the other companies were using the same styles they had before the war," he states.

Johnson is not one to baby his cars. While he keeps them garaged, except for the Kaiser, he does take them on the road and not just around town.

"We have gone on several trips with the "A" Model," he says, "including a trip to the factory in Dearborn, Michigan and then to Canada. It has also been to many car automobile shows and won a number of awards. This car was the top of the line in '31 and cost $635. It is painted the original color and the weave in the interior is also original." Johnson points out that the spare tire is located on the side of the car rather than the rear since this particular model has a trunk, something

that many of the "A" Models did not have.

For its period, the most interesting of Johnson's collection is probably the '48 Continental. "This car was the last made in the United States with a V-12 engine. The company made about 5,000 of them, both convertible and coupe. There were more convertibles made than coupes." The Continental came equipped with an overdrive and the physician, who has driven it to Dearborn and Williamsburg, Virginia, says that fully loaded "it can still cruise at 70 all day."

The Continental features push button doors and power windows. The car is "mostly restored" and he has had it re-chromed and re-carpeted. "The carpets are the same weave and color as the original," he says.

As smoothly as the big V-12 pulls the Continental along the road, he feels the best riding car is the '39 Packard. "This is a delightful car. The engine has recently been re-done and the interior is still mostly original." An unusual feature of the Packard, Johnson points out, is the thermostat. It operates a bellows mechanism that opens the louvres on the front grill to admit more air through the radiator as the car warms up.

The '47 Kaiser Custom is a rare car, according to the physician, because the "Custom" designated a more deluxe model than the standard Kaisers and not many were built. The restoration is not as far along on it as other cars because, Johnson relates, "I've just been piddling around with it for four years with some upholstery and engine work, but I still have some more engine work."

While there are problems in restoring antique cars, surprisingly, obtaining parts is not one of them. "Parts are not hard to find," he says, "You get involved with antique cars, join these marque car clubs and begin finding parts in their magazines and through other people at auto club meets."

Johnson is more than just a member of these clubs; he is one of the founders of the Middle Georgia Region of the Antique Automobile Club of America and has served two terms as president. In addition, he has served as a judge and master of ceremonies at many antique automobile gatherings.

Besides the collection of antique cars, the physician has acquired a wide range of memorabilia relating to automobiles. Over several years, he has gathered all the tools that were original with his Model "A". "What makes them valuable is the Ford script engraved on them," Johnson states. Besides the set of wrenches, there is a tire patching kit and a brass hand pump which have the Ford script engraved on them.

Along one wall of the garage hang hubcaps from cars of bygone years; Studebaker, Lincoln V-12, Terraplane, Nash and LaFayette. Against the same wall is an old machine for working on spark plugs and a grinder for polishing parts. Hanging from another wall are signs advertising brands of gasoline. One of these is made of ceramic material rather than tin.

Johnson spends a great deal of time working on his cars, but this has not prevented him from being active within the medical profession. He has been a member of the Georgia and American Academies of Family Physicians since his internship. He served as president of the Georgia Academy in 1978-79 and is currently chairman of the board of directors for that body.

In addition, he is a member of the Medical Association of Georgia, serving as president in 1978 and is a member of the MAG Board of Directors.

He has continued to pursue post-graduate study in medicine, receiving the AMA Physician's Recognition Award for post-graduate study in 1971, 1974, 1977 and 1980.

"The cars are my way of relaxing. I can get down here in the garage working on them and just forget about everything else. I get very involved with them, keeping them running and in good shape," he concludes.

They may be prisoners but they are treated as patients first at Talmadge

Their nursing duties are much the same as nurses in other units throughout the hospital, but the patients they care for are different. After treatment at Talmadge, these patients don't return home — they go back to prison.

Behind the locked doors on 7N in Talmadge Hospital is a 10-bed unit which provides specialized care for inmates of Georgia's state prison at Reidsville.

Mrs. Clymonteen Jones has been the head nurse for this unit ever since it opened nearly seven years ago.

A hardworking staff of three nurses, seven nursing assistants and three clerks cover the various shifts in the unit.

Jones, who has been at Talmadge for 24 years, says she encourages the staff not to read the criminal records of the patients, because it can affect their attitude towards the patient.

"We treat the person as a patient first, then as a prisoner. The prisoners have a right to the best medical care we can give them. They are individuals who, because of their unlawful conduct, have been segregated from society. It is a unique challenge facing the nursing personnel here in giving them proper medical attention without compromising the enforced segregation.

She says recruitment for the unit is difficult because of the preconceived notions people have about working with prisoners. Constraints within the unit are also a factor.

"Some nurses find it difficult to work in a situation where all supplies and medicine are placed under lock and key, and things are monitored so closely," says Mrs. Jones.

State correctional officials work closely with MCG personnel in the unit in transporting and escorting patients in the hospital and guarding the prisoners in the unit. Several guards are on duty at all times, and one guard is always on duty inside the locked patient care area.

Patients receive treatment from all of the major service areas in the hospital, so nurses in the unit have to acquire a wide range of skills in order to do their job effectively. To stay abreast of the latest developments within these fields, Mrs. Jones says the nurses attend two to three in-service programs a month.

"It takes a mature person to work in this setting. You have to be intuitive, and be able to assess each person and each situation carefully," says Jones.

The head nurse says the prisoners are more appreciative of the care they receive than the average patient. "There are some that will try to manipulate you, but most of them are extremely grateful for what you do for them."

Nurse Clymonteen Jones checks security of Talmadge prison unit drugs with Nurse D. Wansbard.

CLASS NOTES

SCHOOL OF DENTISTRY

Larry Stephens, '73, has joined the medical staff at Redmond Park Hospital in Rome.

Mark A. Smith, '77, is associated with the Family Dental Center in Gainesville.

John J. Mosca, '77, writes that he is working for a large corporation of physicians and dentists and is on the staff at a local Baltimore Hospital. He and his wife Beth, have two daughters ages 2 yrs. and 1 month.

Martha Simpson Hebberger, '78, is practicing dentistry with her husband in Mableton and they manage the dental portion of a private medical and dental clinic in southwest Atlanta.

Robert L. Moretz, '78, has opened a dental practice in Montezuma.

SCHOOL OF NURSING

Marty Drew Paulk, '60, owns and manages a hunter stable in Dunwoody where she breeds quarter horses and trains hunters for show ring. She is co-district commissioner of the Atlanta Pony Club. She writes that she does some occasional nursing for her husband **Alan Paulk**, '61.

Joyce Ferrell, '64, is Hancock County public health nurse.

Amanda Hempel Coleburn, '64, has received her M.N. degree. She is certified as a specialist in family health nursing.

Gail F. Davis, '69, '76, is teaching at Dekalb Community College Department of Nursing. Her husband is a landscape architect.

Janice Ray Jenkins, '71, is director of nursing at Southern Union State Junior College A.D. Nursing Program.

Martha Lynn Dailey Comstock, '72, is presently working as ob/gyn Nurse Practitioner in practice with a private physician in Gainesville, Fla.

Jean Christi Anderson Albertin, '73, writes that she left the Navy after 6½ years, and now owns a farm in Bold Springs.

Sue Allen, '73 MSN, works at Marycrest College, Davenport, Ia.

Magda D. Bennett, '74, MSN, organized Family Life Enrichment Centers, Inc. at High Shoals. She incorporated "Hospice of Georgia."

Denise K. Orthen, '74, is presently working as a critical care clinical nurse specialist at St. John's Hospital and Health Center in Santa Monica, Calif.

Paige Mercer Cummings, '75, is instructor at Naval School of Health Sciences, San Diego.

Virginia Mallory, '76, has been named service director for Upjohn Healthcare Services.

Sharon Lane Meng, '76, is nursing supervisor, Children's Medical and Surgical Center, Johns Hopkins Hospital, Baltimore, MD.

Anne L. Turner, '76, is a clinical nurse specialist at the diabetes research and training center, Vanderbilt University.

June M. Williams, '76, is assistant administer of Dodge County Hospital.

Ruby McCrickard, '77, is one of a group of nurse administrators selected as a representative of People to People Delegation mission to England, Sweden, Hungry and Poland. Her biographical sketch will appear in the seventeenth edition of **Who's Who** in the South and Southwest, 1980.

Franz Virginia Sharp, '77, is head nurse in L&D at Laurens Memorial Hospital

Helen C. Lamb, '77, '79, is oncology clinical specialist at the VA Medical Center in Augusta.

Patricia B. Moss, '77, is part-time clinical faculty appointment department of adult nursing at the Medical College of Georgia.

T. Baird Fulghum, '79, is working on a surgical unit at the Naval Hospital in Charleston, SC. His daughter Leah Elizabeth is 11 months old.

SCHOOL OF MEDICINE

Samuel F. Rosen, '29, of Tybee Island sends a correction to the class news item in MCG *Today*, Spring issue. Dr. Rosen writes that he is partially retired and in excellent health. He celebrated his 75th birthday on May 12, 1980. He is active on the Tumor Board of the Memorial Medical Center and is the alternating dermatologist to the U.S.P.H.S. out patient clinic.

David Robinson, '42, retired from active practice due to disability. He is historian of the Georgia Medical Society and writes a monthly column for the **Bulletin of the Georgia Medical Society.** He writes that he has been appointed to the Advisory Board of the Israel Institute of Medical History, Jerusalem, Israel.

Henry D. "Speedy" Meaders, '41, recently received the "Citizen of the Year" award from the Cobb County Chamber of Commerce. Dr. Meaders estimates that in his 30 years of practice, he delivered more than 8,500 babies. He retired from delivering infants last August, but continues practicing gynecology in Cobb County.

Bowdre Carswell, '48, was chosen chief of staff at St. Francis Hospital of Santa Barbara. Dr. Carswell is a diplomat of the American Board of Surgery and a fellow in the American College of Surgeons.

Don Schmidt, '49, is leaving his practice of 26 years in Cedartown to serve as a lieutenant commander in the United States Navy. He will be at the United States Naval Hospital in Beaufort, S.C. The Cedartown City Commission proclaimed a "Dr. Don Schmidt Day" in Cedartown, in honor of his many contributions to the community and its citizens.

Sheldon B. Cohen, '51, was presented the American Society of Clinical Hypnosis 1979 Presidential Merit Award on November 17, 1979 in San Francisco, Calif.

Charles Emory Bohler, '54, is Georgia Southern College's Distinguished Biology Alumnus of 1980.

F. Jones Smiley, '56, was elected vice chief of staff of The Hospital Authority of Walker, Dade and Catoosa County.

Bruce Head, III, '70, was named a fellow in the American College of Cardiology in March.

W. Thomas Jenkins, 72, is in private ob/gyn practice with **Danny Askew**, '70.

J. Ronald Stephens, '73, is in general surgery private practice in Atlanta. He is director of surgical residents at Crawford W. Long Hospital and clinical instructor in the department of surgery at Emory. He is a diplomat in the American Board of Surgery.

Gary M. Daniels, '78, has completed Navy Flight Surgeon training at the Naval Aerospace Medical Institute.

Deaths

Joseph Woddall, '42, Tuscaloosa, Ala.
Arthur M. Tyson, '48, LaFayette, Calif.
Jimmy Morris, '55, Jacksonville, Fla.
Elmer E. Haque, Jr., '57, Spartanburg, SC
Rick Steven Shuman, '73, Elberton
Victor Benator, '77, Mobile, Ala.

MCG's third woman grad has strong views

"I call it child abuse when a mother takes a young child to a nursery at 6 a.m. and leaves him there until 6 p.m. so she can work all day" says Dr. Leila Denmark in an article by Steve Wright in the *Atlanta Constitution*.

The 82-year-old pediatrician was the third woman to be graduated from the Medical College of Georgia in Augusta in 1928 and she was the first woman intern for the Henrietta Egleston Hospital for children.

Dr. Denmark has spent many hours as a volunteer at Central Presbyterian Church's Baby Clinic. The laboratory of that clinic was where she developed the world's first whooping cough serum in 1936.

Dr. Denmark says her views "aren't old fashioned, they're the only fashion. You have to start a baby off right in order to have a healthy person." Otherwise the babies get sick a lot more.

Dr. Denmark isn't afraid to speak out to working mothers because she is a professional herself. She took her own advice when her child was born by moving her office to her breakfast room at home.

Dr. Denmark is the author of "Every Child Should Have a Chance." She says medicine is last resort with her. As a result, she says most of her prescriptions are doses of "good, common sense" instead of pills.

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